Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A breathing device comprising, in fluid communication, a breathing channel and an exhaust channel extending from a junction therebetween; and a gas inlet channel arranged so as in use to introduce gas into said breathing channel such that in use a positive pressure may be maintained in the breathing channel, wherein an axis of the gas inlet channel is laterally offset from an axis of the breathing channel at the point at which the gas inlet channel introduces the gas into the breathing channel such that a part of the gas introduced by the gas inlet channel bypasses the breathing channel to flow down the exhaust channel to permit the pressure in the breathing channel during inhalation to be greater than the pressure in the breathing channel during exhalation.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (currently amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~ wherein the axis of the gas inlet channel is laterally offset from an axis of the breathing channel at a narrowest part of

the breathing channel.

19. (currently amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~ wherein the breathing channel is of a substantially constant cross-sectional area.

20. (currently amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~ wherein the breathing channel has a substantially circular cross-section.

21. (currently amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~ wherein the gas inlet channel opens into the breathing channel.

22. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ A breathing device ~~of Claim 21~~ comprising, in fluid communication, a breathing channel and an exhaust channel extending from a junction therebetween; and a gas inlet channel arranged so as in use to introduce gas into said breathing channel such that in use a positive pressure may be maintained in the breathing channel, wherein an axis of the gas inlet channel is laterally offset from an axis of the breathing channel at the point at which the gas inlet channel introduces the gas into the breathing channel, wherein the gas inlet channel is arranged to open into the junction between the breathing channel and the exhaust channel on an outer side of the junction.

23. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~, wherein the gas inlet channel is laterally offset from the axis of the breathing channel in a direction toward the exhaust channel.

24. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~ wherein the gas inlet channel is inclined relative to the breathing channel axis.

25. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~ comprising at least two gas inlet channels at different lateral offsets and inclinations.

26. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~ comprising a movable gas inlet channel.

27. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~ wherein the gas inlet channel is narrower than at least one of the exhaust and breathing channels.

28. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~ wherein the breathing and exhaust channels are substantially linear and intersect one another at an angle of at least about ninety degrees.

29. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~ wherein the breathing device

is adapted to be attached directly to a face of a patient.

30. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~ wherein the breathing device is adapted to be connected to a mask.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~ wherein the gas inlet channel is arranged to provide a degree of gas bypass such that increased pressure is provided during inhalation.

33. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim 22 ~~1~~ wherein the gas inlet channel has a cross sectional area that is smaller than a cross sectional area of at least one of the breathing and exhaust channels.

34. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 33 wherein the cross sectional area of the gas inlet channel is ~~approximately~~ less than about one-fourth the cross sectional area of at least one of the breathing and exhaust channels.

35. (Previously Presented) A breathing device comprising, in fluid communication, a breathing channel and an exhaust channel extending from a junction therebetween; and a gas inlet channel arranged so as in use to introduce gas into the breathing channel such that in use a positive pressure may be maintained in the breathing channel, wherein an axis of the gas inlet channel is directed towards an inner edge of the junction between the breathing and exhaust channels.

36. (Currently Amended) The device of Claim ~~35~~ 37 wherein the axis of the gas inlet channel is laterally offset from the axis of the breathing channel at the point at which the gas inlet channel introduces the gas into the breathing channel.

37. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ breathing device ~~of Claim 35~~ comprising, in fluid communication, a breathing channel and an exhaust channel extending from a junction therebetween; and a gas inlet channel arranged so as in use to introduce gas into the breathing channel such that in use a positive pressure may be maintained in the breathing channel, wherein an axis of the gas inlet channel is directed towards an inner edge of the junction between the breathing and exhaust channels, wherein the gas inlet channel is arranged to open into the junction between the breathing channel and the exhaust channel on an outer side of the junction.

38. (currently amended) The device of Claim ~~35~~ 37 wherein the gas inlet channel is arranged to provide a degree of gas bypass such that increased pressure is provided during inhalation.